Stark Campus Library
Usage Statistics for 15-16
Summary

**Circulation**
The number of Stark owned items (mostly books) checked out has steadily declined since 2010/11. As a new generation of students rely more heavily on electronic resources, the use of print materials is clearly less important to them. Library circulation is less than half what it was 10 years ago and will likely continue to decline.

**Interlibrary Borrowing/Lending**
Another indicator of less reliance on printed materials is the increasingly small number of interlibrary lending and borrowing transactions. Just like the number of Stark items that checked out last year, the number of items borrowed from other libraries is well below half what it was 10 years ago.

**Attendance**
Another indicator of decreasing library activity is the number of students coming in and using the library. That number was down again last year. Similar to the decline in the use of print materials (both locally and through interlibrary borrowing), technology makes it easier for students to access library services from off-campus. Another factor for the decline is the low attendance during times when the campus is not offering classes and during the summer. In addition, online courses (many now offered during the summer, but also throughout the year), make it less necessary for student to be on campus and use the library.
Library Instruction
After seeing the number of library instruction classes decreased for the past couple of years, there was a spike last year. With librarians now employed by Stark State, our librarians only assisted in teaching one of their classes. Still, overall the number of classes and students increased by 19%. An interesting trend over the past several years is that the average class size has gone from 21 in 2007/08 down to 16 in 2015/16. The library has been tracking its impact through its instructional efforts. One measure has been to determine how many enrolled students each year come in for at least one library instructional session. After compensating for classes that come in more than once a year and setting a duplication rate of about 30% for students, approximately 46% of all enrolled students came in for a library instructional session over the past five years. It has been and will continue to be the goal of the library to instruct 50% of all enrolled students at Stark.

Print Periodical Usage/Cost
A recurring theme in this summary report is the effect electronic resources have on library services. Print periodicals have been greatly impacted by the ubiquitous availability of online journals. One outcome of this evolutionary development is that print periodicals are used much less than in the past. Sensitive to the implications of this, the library has been tracking the cost per use of print subscriptions. While the overall cost of print subscriptions continues to increase, there is a trend whereby the cost per use is approaching the cost per subscription. This means that many if not most titles are not used at all in a year or used only once. To address this concern, the library will propose a dramatic decrease in the number of print subscriptions and rely more heavily on online equivalents (print journals available online through one of the library’s licensed databases).